

## **DNR Accessibility Advisory Council Mtg.**

Monday, February 25, 2008

Okemos, Michigan

### **Advisory Council Present:**

- ☒ Sophie Baker, SOM, Dept of Civil Rights
- ☒ Rick Briggs, Brain Injury Assoc of MI
- ☒ Cindy Burkhour, Access to Recreation Initiative
- ☐ Vendella Collins, SOM, Developmental Disabilities Council (MDCH)
- ☐ Jeff Coupie, Michigan Sports Unlimited
- ☐ Brigadier General Carol Ann Fausone, MI Department of Veterans Affairs
- ☐ Rodney Haneline, Leader Dogs for the Blind
- ☒ Aaron Harris, Safari Club
- ☒ Roberta McCall, SOM, Michigan Commission for the Blind (DLEG)
- ☒ Roger McCarville, Disabilities Today
- ☐ Scott Norris, SOM, Library of Michigan
- ☐ Lucia Rios, Disability Network – Lakeshore
- ☒ Scott Severn, MI Paralyzed Veterans of America
- ☒ Bill Sheffer, MI Assn of Recreation Vehicles & Campgrounds
- ☒ Jim Trinklein, MI Assn of Game Bird Breeders & Hunting Preserves
- ☒ Mark Velthouse, Outdoors Without Limits
- ☒ John Witzke, MI United Conservation Clubs
- ☐ Duncan Wyeth, SOM, Commission on Disability Concerns (DLEG)

### **DNR Present:**

- ☐ Bonnie Arthur, Communications
- ☒ Vicki Brown, Wildlife
- ☐ Jordan Byelich, Parks & Rec
- ☒ Brenda Curtis, Forest Mineral and Fire Management
- ☐ Monica Day, Grants
- ☒ Jerry Harris, Human Resources
- ☐ Julee Hasbany, Communications
- ☒ Linda Hegstrom, Grants
- ☒ Sharon Lawrence-Taylor, Legal Services
- ☒ Dan Lord, Parks & Rec
- ☐ Sharlene McConneghy, Law Enforcement
- ☒ Erica Moore, Fisheries
- ☒ Tami Pattison, Fisheries
- ☒ William Pemble, OLAF
- ☒ Peggy Ruby, Law Enforcement
- ☒ Donna Slater, Human Resources
- ☐ Paul Stoddard, OLAF
- ☐ Deb Stolecki, Forest Mineral and Fire Management
- ☐ Bruce Watkins, OLAF
- ☒ Ken Wright, Human Resources

**Guests Present:**

Terri Trinklein, MAGBHP  
Nancy Bell, MUCC  
Amy Spray, MUCC

Meeting called to order by Jerry Harris.

**Changes to Agenda:** Times will be adjusted as needed.

**Minutes:** Minutes from the January 14, 2008 meeting were accepted with no changes.

**“Respectful Language” – Cindy Burkhour :** Cindy spoke on the concepts behind the people first movement. A brochure title “What’s in a Name?” published by the MI Commission on Disability Concerns was provided to all attendees. Number one concept is that no one is exempt from a disability. Disabilities know no boundaries. Most are “acquired” not born with. It is the fastest growing minority in the world. Second concept is that people are first, not the disability. Change “is” to “has” and make it a statement of fact. People don’t want to be identified by a characteristic.

**Trust Fund Grants – New Procedures, Processes, and Scoring for Universal Access - Cindy Burkhour:** Grants will pay ½ match. The thought is that organizations would apply for funding because they knew they would get more money for the project. Grants are awarded to organizations that best demonstrate the process of developing a universally accepted design, connect with individuals with disabilities, connect with potential users, and who ask for creative ideas. Grants evaluate the design looking at how they meet the minimum requirements of ADA, show how their design goes above and beyond the minimum, and shows the best practice demonstration. They get extra points for doing a universal design. Linda Hegstrom talked about three projects that had been awarded grants: Greilick Park in Leelanau County, Motz Park in Clinton County, and Shingle Lake Park in Clare County.

**Update on Access to Recreation Projects – Dan Lord:** The status of Parks and Recreation Division projects was highlighted in a power point presentation. The initiative began several years ago when the Kellogg Foundation funded the “Able to Play” project. Dan showed pictures of various parks accessible features. Parks is moving forward with phase one, and is soliciting grants and forming other partner opportunities.

**“Vehicle” & “Supervised Hunt” Recommendations – Bill Pemble:** Copies of the recommendations were provided to attendees and discussion ensued on the focus on the vehicle aspect, personal assisted devices, and Public Act 451. Bill Milzarski presented a motion to move forward with the vehicle recommendation, and Roger McCarville seconded the motion. Minor amendments were suggested by Cindy and Sophie which were accepted, supported, and the motion passed.

Discussion then ensued regarding the Supervised Hunt recommendation presented by Bill. A motion to move forward was presented by Rick Briggs, seconded by Bill Milzarski.

#### PAGE 4 JERRY'S NOTES?????

##### Motions

Discussion Supervised Hunt Recommendations

Presentation by Bill

Motion Rick Briggs

2<sup>nd</sup> Bill Milzarski

Level of supervision needed by the correct individual

Supervisor Hunting Licenses

Bring forward the Apprentice process

Jerry to talk to Wildlife on the rec and on the

M – Rick Briggs

2<sup>nd</sup> – Bill Milzarski

Motion – ask the DNR to support – for those individuals who cannot pass hunter safety due to a defined disability.

Delete blind line

Cathy Clark – Access to Recreation (Pace & Partners)

Kellogg grant

Looking for advisory members

Rick Briggs

**DNR Director - Rebecca Humphries:** Director Humphries began by asking the Council how it was going. How can the Department interact better with them? The Apprentice license program was luke warm when it was first introduced but has grown into a very good program. Parks & Recreation has an ageing infrastructure. Current Budget does have some funding for improvements. This is the last year of CMI funding. Roger McCarville congratulated the Director for putting together the AAC. Rick Briggs talked about the important role outdoor recreation plays in the lives of returning war veterans. John Witzke expressed his appreciation to the Director and the Governor for forming the AAC. Bill Sheffer said that he was pleased with the progress and believes that the AAC is really doing well. There was discussion about the model being used by other departments. The DNR is looked at as a leader. There is a long term funding committee being formed at the Legislative level to address the Department's budget. The Director closed by saying "Let us know what we can do better".

Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

**Next meeting is April 7, 10am-3pm, MHRVAC Okemos location.**